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### Glover Special Road District.

Mr. Editor—Will you be so kind as to allow me some of your space, in which I desire to make some corrections and explanations in regards to Glover Special Road District? Taking for granted that a part, if not all of the readers of your valuable paper, like myself, would like to know something about.

I will give a partial biography of myself and present standing, and so forth. If the record in the old family Bible has been correctly kept I first saw the light of day on the 14th day of March, A. D. 1870, at or near Annapolis. Have lived continuously in Iron County, have worked at various occupations, such as farming, hauling logs, blacksmithing, saw milling, clerking in country stores, and few months railroading. Have been around a good deal, especially around home. I am married, wife living, ten children living, one dead; live 5 miles from the railroad on partially improved farm of 560 acres. Been there two years. 25 acres in cultivation this year; 200 acres of tract can be cultivated. Our principal crops are corn, wheat, soybeans, and sorghum. We have a fine stock of cattle, hogs, and chickens. We are all Baptists and Democrats, but, like the man that was born in North Carolina, "Just can't help it," and don't want you to think hard of us for it.

Kind reader, allow me the privilege of stating that nothing I may write is written in a spirit of criticism, but a desire to deal with facts and figures and conditions. I have given you my partial biography so you keep it ever before you. I desire you to consider me the affected party.

Now, as to Glover Special Road District, drawn under article seven (7), Section 10611 to 10625. You will understand the law covers the entire State of Missouri and is drawn to cover different Sections of the State, for instance it is impossible to build in Iron County as you would in the prairies of North Missouri, or in the swamp lands of Southeast Missouri. In North Missouri land values are high, from \$75 to \$250 per acre. People generally in that section have no objections to a high tax; not a question of tax with them, but a question of roads. They own fine stock, fine vehicles, automobiles, up-to-date farm machinery, traction outfits both gasoline and steam. They practically demand of the legislature as late as 1905 a law by which we can use our unlimited means, even to the levying of 100 percent, as a corporate body, so we can build great highways across our State. Co-operation in North Missouri is no new thing. Now there happened in the Legislature, Representatives from the Ozark and swamp lands country, who said, "We can't do these great things you talk of. Our land is all covered with water in Southeast Missouri, we could not afford to build roads of this description down here." "All right," says North Missouri, "we will put provisions in our laws, whereby you can drain your land, and build roads all at the same time by bonded indebtedness." So in Southeast Missouri the water-covered jungles are being drained, and roads built. Only a question of time until Southeast Missouri will be the Eden of Missouri. Co-operation did it.

So, now you may say, "how about the Ozarks?" Is there any provision for them, especially Iron County? Yes sir, Iron County had her Representative right there in the person of Jas. Henry Folk, who declared, "while I am in favor of co-operation the county that I represent is hilly and my people can not stand this enormous taxation you speak of." "So," says Mr. Northeast Missouri and Mr. Southeast Missouri, "we'll make this corporate law so elastic and so flexible that it will cover every nook and cranny of this, our great State, regardless of hills, valleys, rivers, swamp land, prairies or what not, rich and poor, bond and free, saint and sinner, alike, shall have the blessed privilege of co-operating in building roads. If you have great means, use them; if you have small means, use them; if you have none at all do the best you can."

I will say, that I had some experience in doing some of this "best you can" building last winter, and that it was not to my preference at all. To this I will refer later.

So the result is that we have a corporate law, known as Special Road Districts that is so simple that a wayfarer stranger may understand. This is how the law works: The petition has a majority of land in acres, with the signatures of petitioners. County Court passes it and appoints their Commissioners, who take the Constitutional Oath. These Commissioners must be landowners in the District. Section 10613 says they shall hold their office until Tuesday after the first Monday in January thereafter, and then the land owners elect their Commissioners; one for 1 year, one for 2 years, and one for 3 years. Next in order is the assessment of land in the District. Section 10615 provides that the Commissioners shall do this, but in the event that they disagree they shall call in the County Assessor. Why not take the County Assessor's books for it? We have a Board of Equalization familiar with this work. Let our assessed valuation remain where it is. Remember it is the "shall not" in law that we are afraid of. The law does not say that we shall not do this.

So far, so good. Next in order the Commissioners have authority (Section 10616) to request the County Surveyor or bridge Commissioner, and if no such Engineer can be furnished, they can employ one at a compensation to be fixed by them, who shall make estimates under the direction of the Commissioners, on any road to be built or improved. This work can be any kind of work deemed necessary by the Commissioners, such as making, grading, graveling, filling, bling or otherwise improving or constructing any road in said district. Now after these estimates are all made they shall be filed with the president or secretary, and shall from the date of their filing be open to the inspection, under proper regulations, of all owners of land within said district.

Next under Section 10616, meeting of land owners, called by at least ten printed or written hand bills, or by at least three publications in some weekly newspaper. At such meeting the Commissioners shall submit the report containing estimates and profiles, etc., submitted by the Engineer on said propositions. Each land holder shall have as many votes as he has acres of land. A majority of acres of land shall be necessary to determine in first, second and third propositions, which means, what kind of material, how and when paid.

You see substance of 10615 and 10616 is that the commissioners are authorized to have estimates, maps and profiles made on any piece of work that in their judgment should be done, but they have absolutely no power to levy 1 cent against any man's acres of ground. The land owners themselves elect or reject any and all proposals.

Section 10617 to 10621 sets forth how tax bills, general lines of procedures are carried on down to 1922; there it gives the land owners right to petition under this article the County Clerk shall set aside to the credit of said Road District the portion of the revenues for working the public roads that may be raised by direct taxation against property lying therein, according to any existing law or subsequent enactment, and said revenue shall be spent by said Board of Commissioners, for keeping any road within said district in repair or for paying for any other needed work; likewise shall a proper apportionment of any license, taxes and poll taxes, and city revenues raised and set aside to any special Road District organized under article 11 of chapter 102 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri of 1909, be made by the County and turned over to the Commission provided for by this article. Any Overseer or Road Commissioner, who shall be such, under any other law at the time of the organization of such Road District, shall turn over to such Commission any tools, graders, scrapers or implements of any kind in his possession which may by a proper apportionment belong to such district. Said Commission shall have power to contract for the working or improving of said road in any manner that to them may seem best, and to pay for the same out of such revenues.

Section 10625 recites that all poll tax shall be paid in cash; provided that the general road law in force in such County shall remain in force in such district, except wherein the provisions thereof shall be in conflict with the provisions of this article.

Kind reader, it is your humble scribe's desire to set at naught all rumors to the effect that this district will raise taxes. There will be no such thing as \$40 tax bills, land being sold as you have heard from these remonstrance people. As I have carefully set out, that the Commission has no authority in the raising of taxes only by a majority vote of land owners by acres. The Commission's authority stops with the estimates.

I think that if they will give the law under which this petition is drawn a careful study, they will find they have a mere nest instead of a rookery.

(To be continued.)

### A TEXAS WONDER.

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### Notice of Local Option Election.

Notice of a Special Election, to be held under the provisions of Article 3, of Chapter 63, of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1909, commonly known as the Local Option Law, to determine whether or not spirituous and intoxicating liquors, including wine and beer, shall be sold, furnished, or given away, within the limits of Iron County, in the State of Missouri.

Be it remembered that on the 9th day of April, 1914, the same being the eleventh day of the February Term of the County Court of said Iron County, Missouri, among other proceedings, a petition was filed and received by said Court, signed by Mann Ringo et al., praying for a special election to be held in said County, to determine whether or not spirituous and intoxicating liquors, including wine and beer, should be sold, furnished, or given away, within the limits of said County, and the said 9th day of April, 1914, at said term of said Court the following among other proceedings were had and entered of record, to wit:

Now come Mann Ringo et al. and present their petition to the Court, praying for a special election to be held in Iron County, Missouri, as provided in Article 3, Chapter 63, of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1909, commonly known as the Local Option Law, to determine whether or not spirituous and intoxicating liquors, including wine and beer, shall be sold, furnished, or given away, within the limits of said County, and the Court having seen and heard such petition, and having examined the poll books of the last previous general election held in said County, and having compared the names on said poll books with the names on said petition, doth find that said petition is signed by more than one-tenth of the qualified voters of said County, which are and were qualified to vote for members of the legislature therein, at the last previous general election held therein, and that there is not any city or town in said County, at this time, having a population of twenty-five hundred inhabitants or more.

It is, therefore, ordered by the Court that a special election be held in said County at the usual voting precincts therein at which general elections for state officers are held, on the

10th day of May, 1914,

said date being within forty days from the date on which said petition was presented to this Court, to determine whether or not spirituous and intoxicating liquors, including wine and beer, shall be sold, furnished, or given away, within the limits of said County, and all persons voting at said election who are against the sale of intoxicating liquors shall have written or printed on their ballots, "FOR THE SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS," and all those who are in favor of the sale of such intoxicating liquors shall have written or printed on their ballots, "AGAINST THE SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS."

It is further ordered that said election shall be conducted, the returns thereof made, and the result thereof ascertained and determined, according, in all respects, with the laws of this State, governing general elections for county officers, and the result thereof shall be entered upon the records of this Court, and the expenses of said election shall be paid out of the

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County Treasury, as in the case of the election of county officers.

It is further ordered that the Clerk of this Court shall cause notice of said election to be published in the IRON COUNTY REGISTER, a weekly newspaper published in said County, and that said notice shall be published in said newspaper for four consecutive weeks, the last insertion shall be within ten days next before the day of said election.

A true copy of the record:  
Attest, with seal, this 11th day of April, 1914.  
JOS. A. REYBURN,  
Clerk of County Court Iron County, Missouri.

### PROBATE DOCKET

Term Docket of the Probate Court, Iron County, Missouri—May Term, A. D. 1914.

Monday, May 11th.

J. M. Hawkins, executor, with will annexed, of the estate of K. Kuhn, deceased.

Paul P. Rosentreter, public administrator of the estate of Wm. P. McCarver, deceased. Final.

O. Collins, administrator of the estate of Henry Berry, deceased. Final.

Harrison H. Peace, administrator of the estate of Chas. C. Peace, deceased.

Tuesday, May 12th.

Paul P. Rosentreter, public administrator de bonis non of the estate of the estate of T. B. Stevens, deceased.

John A. Lotz, administrator of the estate of John Lotz, deceased.

Emeline Hines, executrix, with will annexed, of the estate of Jacob Hines, deceased.

Louis L. Sutton, executor, with will annexed, of the estate of Akillis Sutton, deceased.

Frank A. Lashley, executor, with will annexed, of the estate of Henry C. Lashley, deceased.

Estate of John J. Leonard, deceased. Priscilla M. Leonard, administratrix. Final.

Wednesday, May 13th.

William L. Maxwell, administrator of the estate of D. S. Love, deceased.

Annie Backof, guardian of the person and curator of the estate of Harry Backof, a minor.

Azariah Martin, guardian of the person and curator of the estate of Ruby Sutton, a minor.

Azariah Martin, guardian of the person and curator of the estate of Harold Sutton, deceased.

William Sutton, guardian of the person and curator of the estate of Perry Sutton, a minor.

William Sutton, guardian and curator of the estate of Otto Sutton, a minor.

William Sutton, guardian of the person and curator of the estate of Nim Sutton, a minor.

O. W. ROOP,  
Judge of Probate and ex-Officio Clerk.

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